

Ireland Under the Union (1801-1843)

Headings	Notes
PARLIAMENTARY TRADITION IN IRELAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliamentary tradition is the use of peaceful political means to achieve political change. • In Ireland, Catholic emancipation and the Home Rule movement belonged to parliamentary tradition while the 1798 Rebellion and the 1916 Easter Rising belong to physical force tradition.
IRELAND AFTER THE ACT OF UNION (1801)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Act of Union (1801) established Dublin Castle as the base for the government of Ireland which was led by the Chief Secretary, a British politician who was based in London while the Lord Lieutenant represented the British Crown in Ireland. • 'The Catholic Question' was one of the biggest political issues of the time. The British government had promised that after the Act of Union the last of the Penal Laws would be abolished and full Catholic emancipation would be granted – that Catholics would be allowed to sit in parliament. Catholics also resented paying tithes to the Church of Ireland. • The emergence of a wealthy, well-educated Catholic middle class of large farmers, professional and merchants campaigns for change.
DANIEL O'CONNELL (1775 – 1847) BACKGROUND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel O'Connell was born in Cahirciveen, Co. Kerry to a wealthy Catholic middle-class family. As Catholics were barred from attending university in Ireland, O'Connell was sent to France for a university education where he studied law and became a barrister. • O'Connell witnessed the bloody 'Reign of Terror' during the French Revolution which would lead to his lifelong hatred of political violence. • O'Connell supported the aims of the United Irishmen but rejected their use of violence. The Act of Union came into force in 1801 which brought the end of the Irish Parliament. Instead, Ireland now sent 100 MPs to the House of Commons in Westminster and was represented by 32 peers in the House of Lords. • As MPs had to swear an oath recognising the King of England as head of the Church which prevented Catholics from becoming MPs as their head of Church is the Pope.
Keywords	Summary
Parliamentary tradition Act of Union (1801) Chief Secretary Lord Lieutenant The Catholic Question Penal Laws Catholic Emancipation Daniel O'Connell	<p>The fight for Catholic Emancipation is an example of parliamentary tradition in Irish history. The Act of Union (1801) brought an end to the Irish parliament in Dublin while Dublin Castle became a base for British control led by the Chief Secretary. The Lord Lieutenant represented the British Crown. The Catholic Question was one of the main issues they faced by the British Government; they had promised to end the Penal Laws after the Act but were reluctant to give full Catholic emancipation. A wealthy, well-educated Catholic middle class emerged following the 1798 Rebellion who campaigned for change. Daniel O'Connell would become an influential leader for this period in Irish history.</p>

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THE FIGHT FOR CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> O'Connell founded the Catholic Board in 1811 to campaign for Catholic emancipation before he later founded the Catholic Association, in 1823 which continued to fight for Catholic emancipation as well as the end of tithe payments and rights of tenant farmers. The membership fee was one penny a month ('Catholic Rent'). In 1828, O'Connell won the Clare seat for election to Westminster but refused to take the parliamentary oath. In 1829 the British Prime Minister, the Duke of Wellington, passed the Emancipation Act which allowed O'Connell to take his seat. O'Connell became known as 'the Liberator' as a result of the Emancipation Act while the British King, George IV, referring to O'Connell as 'the King of Ireland'.
THE REPEAL MOVEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1830, O'Connell set up the Repeal Association to campaign for the repeal (abolition) of the Act of Union; he wanted the restoration of the Irish parliament to deal with Irish issues. In 1838, O'Connell succeeded in having the cost of tithe payments lowered and instead of them being paid to the Church of Ireland, they were paid to the landlords. In 1841, O'Connell was the first Catholic Lord Mayor of Dublin to be elected. O'Connell organised over 50 'monster meetings' (huge rallies of over 100,000 people) around the island of Ireland. The British government feared these monster meetings would lead to a rebellion, bigger than that of 1798. Because of this, they sent soldiers to enforce its ban on the rally at Clontarf in 1843; O'Connell would cancel the rally rather than risk any violence on the people. O'Connell's refusal to resort to violence provoked a split in the Repeal Movement as the younger members would go on to set up the Young Irelanders who later rebelled in 1848.
DEATH AND LEGACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1847, O'Connell pleaded for help in the Westminster parliament during the Great Famine for the Irish who were dying from hunger and starvation. Later in May, he died while on pilgrimage to Rome. His last wish was that his heart be buried in Rome while his body was buried in Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin. O'Connell would influence many future Irish leaders such as Charles Stewart Parnell, John Redmond & John Hume along with activists like Mahatma Gandhi & Martin Luther King Jr.
Keywords	Summary
Catholic Association Catholic Rent Clontarf Duke of Wellington Emancipation Act Monster Meetings The Liberator Young Irelanders Repeal Association	O'Connell set up the Catholic Association in 1823 to campaign for Catholic Emancipation , the end of tithe payments and rights of tenant farmers and was supported by Catholic Rent . O'Connell was elected as the MP for Clare but unable to take his seat due to the Parliamentary Oath. The Duke of Wellington pass the Emancipation Act in 1829 which allowed O'Connell to take his seat. O'Connell set up the Repeal Movement to re-establish the Irish Parliament. He gathered support by holding monster meetings but this frightened the British government that there could be a rebellion. O'Connell cancelled the Clontarf Meeting to prevent the outbreak of violence. This led to the setting up of the Young Irelanders . O'Connell died in Rome in 1847.

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Keywords	Definitions
Act of Union (1801)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A law that abolished the Irish parliament in Dublin. It came into effect on 1st January 1801, forcing Irish MPs to travel to the Westminster Parliament in London.
Catholic Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Campaign group set up by Daniel O'Connell to work to achieve Catholic Emancipation
Catholic Emancipation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Granting equal rights to Catholics, especially the right to take seats in Parliament.
Chief Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of the government of Ireland, based in Dublin Castle
Eviction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When someone is forced out of their home.
House of Commons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The lower house of parliament in the United Kingdom; sits in Westminster
House of Lords	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The upper house of parliament in the United Kingdom; sits in Westminster
Lord Lieutenant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The British King's representative in Ireland
Parliamentary Tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belief in use of peaceful means to achieve political change, and to achieve Irish independence; opposed to physical force tradition.
Penal Laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laws passed in the 17th and 18th Century Ireland to control and discriminate against Catholics and Presbyterians.
Physical force tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belief in use of revolution, armed uprisings to achieve Irish independence; opposed to parliamentary tradition.
Repeal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (of the Act of Union) Bring parliament back from Westminster to Dublin
Repeal Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Campaign group set up by Daniel O'Connell to work to abolish the Act of Union
Tenement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A building housing a large number of families in separate rooms
Westminster	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Palace in London where the UK parliament passes laws and bills